

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A method for the potentiation of an immune response to an infectious
2 disease after the discontinuation of treatment for the infection or prior to vaccination,
3 comprising administering to a subject a composition comprising IL-2 in an amount effective to
4 maintain immune enhancement without eliciting toxicity of Grade 1 or higher as defined by
5 the World Health Organization.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the subject has Human
2 Immunodeficiency Virus.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the subject has undetectable plasma
2 viral RNA.
- 1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the subject has discontinued HAART.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the subject has HCV.
- 1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein the subject has undetectable plasma
2 viral RNA levels.
- 1 7. The method of claim 6, wherein the subject has discontinued IFN- α
2 therapy or combination IFN- α and ribavirin therapy.
- 1 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the amount of IL-2 administered is
2 about 100,000 to about 500,000 IU/m² body surface/day.

1 9. The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is immune reconstituted.

1 10. The method of claim 1, wherein the IL-2 composition further comprises
2 a pharmaceutical carrier.

1 11. A method for treatment of hepatitis C virus comprising administering to
2 a subject a composition comprising IL-2 in an amount effective to maintain immune
3 enhancement without eliciting toxicity of Grade 1 or higher as defined by the World Health
4 Organization.

1 12. The method of claim 11, wherein the IL-2 is administered in addition to
IFN- α and ribavirin antiviral therapy.

DRAFTS OF THE SPECIFICATION